

BRIEF
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HISTORICAL SKETCHES

OF

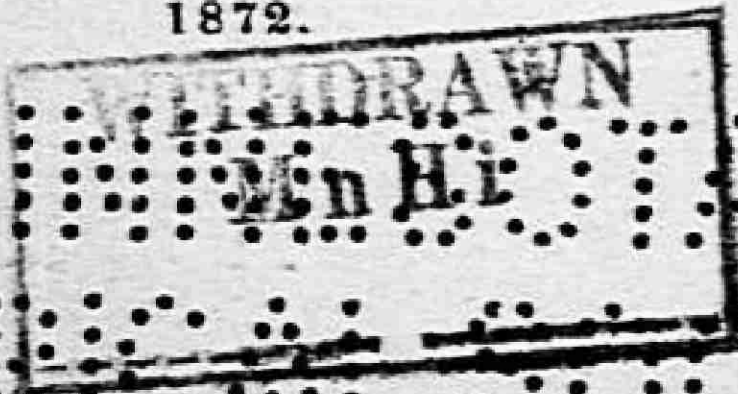
THOMAS WHITE,

AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS.

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BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCHES
OF
THOMAS WHITE,
AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS.

THOMAS WHITE, one of the early Pilgrims, was a man full of good works, and eminently fitted to take a prominent part in establishing a Republic founded on civil and religious liberty. Nothing is known of his history, until we find him one of the citizens of Weymouth, Massachusetts, in A. D. 1630.

We have not the history of how or when he came, or even the name of his wife; but that he originally came from England, and had sat under the preachings and religious instructions of the sainted Robinson, there is not a doubt; and there is but little doubt that he was a brother of WILLIAM, father of Perigine, who came in the "May Flower," ten years previous.

He was made freeman in Weymouth, in 1635; appointed a military commander, at that time an office of great respectability; represented the town in General Court, Boston, in 1637, 1657 and 1671, and holding during his lifetime many other offices of trust and distinction.

The good works of THOMAS having been finished, he died, and was buried in Weymouth, August, 1679, leaving five children.

JOSEPH married Lydia Rogers, of Weymouth.

HANNAH married John Baxter, of Quincy, Mass.

SAMUEL married Mary Dyer, of Weymouth.

THOMAS married Mary Pratt, of Weymouth.

EBENEZER, married Mary Phillips, of Weymouth.

JOSEPH, the eldest son, who married Lydia Rogers, emigrated to Menden, Worcester County, about 1666, was one of the founders and first settlers of the town. He remained there ten years, when the settlement was broken up by the Indians, and he returned to Weymouth, returning again with his family to Menden, after the peace. He was distinguished for the many good traits of character inherited from his father, holding at different times during his lifetime, many military and civil offices, died and was buried at Menden, March 23d, 1706, leaving ten children.

JOSEPH, born July 5th, 1661.

LYDIA, born Dec. 17th, 1662.

THOMAS, born April 1st, 1665.

SAMUEL, born Feb. 14th, 1666.

JOHN, born Dec. 3d, 1668.

EBENEZER, born Dec. 4th, 1670.

ANN.

MARY.

EXPERIENCE.

HANNAH.

JOSEPH, born July 5th, 1661, married and settled in Menden, in that part of the town subsequently set off and named Uxbridge; died in 1737, highly respected, leaving a large estate and nine children.

JOSEPH,
PETER,
AARON,
MOSES,
EBENEZER,
ABIGAIL,
SARAH,
PRUDENCE,
RACHAEL.

MOSES settled in Uxbridge, married Abigail Holbrook for his first wife, had three children, all died young, subsequently his wife. For his second wife, married Mary Craggin, removed to Westford Parish, Ashford, Connecticut, in 1805 with his son Ezra and daughter Chloe; subsequently his sons Amariah and Nahum, and daughters Olive and Deborah, with their families, followed. MOSES died in 1808, and was buried in Westford Parish, Ashford, Connecticut, much beloved and highly respected, leaving eight children.

ABIGAIL did not marry, died, and was buried in Uxbridge, March, 15th, 1803.

MARY married Major Jesse Morse, of Uxbridge, died, and was buried there.

AMARIAH married Phoebe Wood, died, and was buried in Westford Parish, Ashford, Connecticut.

DEBORAH married David Hall, died, and was buried in Westford Parish, Ashford, Connecticut.

OLIVE married Joseph Morse, died, and was buried in Belchertown, Massachusetts.

CHLOE did not marry, died, and was buried in Westford Parish, Ashford, Connecticut.

NAHUM did not marry, died, and was buried in Westford Parish, Ashford, Connecticut.

EZRA, son of Moses, born January 1, 1766, married Chloe Wood, daughter of David Wood, of Uxbridge, February 19, 1795; in 1805 they removed to Westford Parish, Ashford, Connecticut, where they spent the remainder of their days, Ezra dying in 1845 and Chloe in 1857, and buried there, highly respected and much beloved.

God's Holy Word was their first and leading study, the commands and precepts of which were engrafted with their daily life; they made all things else succumb to duty to the Great Author of their being. These they diligently and untiringly labored to instill into their children, particularly teaching them that the highest respectability consisted in such goodness as God would approve, without reference to man. There they ; and there they reared their offspring; strong in faith, they lived to witness, before their children became separated by the calls of life, one after the other coming forward and acknowledging Christ to be their Saviour before men, until all, parents and children, were united to one and members of the same church; and as they had lived so they died, full of years and strong in faith in

the promises of a blessed immortality, leaving to their children their living and dying injunction to trust in God. They left four children.

LOVINA, born in Uxbridge, Massachusetts, November 22, 1795, married Daniel Clark, of Somers, Connecticut.

DAVID FARNHAM, born in Uxbridge, Massachusetts, May 26, 1798, married Tirza Allen, of Windsor, Connecticut.

EZRA, born in Uxbridge, Massachusetts, April 2, 1804, married Nancy Ann Pease, of Middletown, Connecticut.

ABIGAIL, born in Westford Parish, Ashford, Connecticut, did not marry.

EZRA, born April 2, 1804, removed from Westford Parish, Ashford, to Stafford, Connecticut, in 1825; from Stafford to Hartford, Connecticut, in 1831, where he became extensively engaged in mercantile business, removing to the City of New-York in 1845, and soon became engaged in the business of fire insurance. And now, 1872, in conjunction with his son, son-in-law and others, conducting a large and extensive business throughout the country, representing a large amount of capital, both English and American; has three children.

CHARLES EZRA, born in Hartford, Connecticut.

ANNIE CHRISTENE, born in Hartford, Connecticut, now Mrs. Samuel P. Blagden.

EMMA THERESE, born in the City of New-York.

The historian says of THOMAS WHITE, our paternal ancestor:

His own and many of the families of succeeding gen-

erations have possessed more than the common share of wealth, and what is of much more consequence, they have been highly respected and useful members of society. It is believed that no person by the name of White, in this country has been the progenitor of so many educated, able and distinguished men.

One of his descendants married William Wild, and was the mother of the Hon. Daniel Wild, and grandmother of the Hon. Sumner Wild, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts; Samuel White, another, graduated at Harvard College in 1731, was a lawyer, settled in Taunton, Massachusetts, was Colonel of the County Regiment, much engaged in public life, having been for nearly all the years from 1744 to his death, a Representative or Counsellor in the General Court of Massachusetts. In 1759, 1764 and 1765 was Speaker of the House of Representatives, and was officially and nominally at least, the prime mover of the American Revolution, having signed as Speaker the circular letter of Massachusetts to the several States, under which the first Congress was convened in the City of New-York, October, 1765, for the purpose of defeating the Stamp Act.

Another married the Hon. Geo. Leonard, LL.D., lawyer, Register, Judge of Probate, Chief-Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, a Representative, Provincial Counsellor, Senator, and one of the first Representatives in Congress.

Another married Governor Bowen of Rhode Island.

Another married Hon. Daniel Leonard, an eminent

lawyer, statesman and orator, who subsequently went to England, and there received the appointment of Chief-Justice of the Bermudas.

Another married the Hon. John W. Smith, an extensive planter in Trinidad.

Another married the Hon. Wm. Baylis of Dighton, Massachusetts, an eminent physician and statesman, father of the Hon. Francis Baylis and William Baylis.

Another married Rev. Joseph Baxter, who graduated at Harvard College, 1693.

The Hon. Daniel Baxter, who died in Boston, 1836, was a descendant.

ABIGAIL BAXTER, sister of John, married Joseph Adams, ancestor of John and John Quincy Adams, former Presidents of the United States.

His son Samuel, represented his native town for several years in the General Court; a wealthy and highly respectable citizen. He at one time commanded a Horse Company, and during that time took Sir Edmund Andrus at Newport, brought him to Boston, and lodged him in the Castle, where he was confined. He was much engaged in the public service.

The characteristics of this branch of the White family are:

1st. They are broad and deep chested, have large, firm bone and muscle, are above the medium size, and quite above the average in physical strength and power of endurance.

2d. Their minds are a proper counterpart of their physical proportions; strong, apt to learn, often teach,



but not permanently ; their reading is solid, often extensive, of which, however, they make no unnecessary display ; better still, they are thinkers, form their opinions discreetly, and have an independent judgment, firm in their purposes, cannot be coerced into wrong, nor driven from the right, but do not boast, nor threaten, or talk large. They stand on their own position, do and act independently, and noiselessly attending to their own business.

3d. They are industrious and frugal ; rarely speculate, their marked characteristic is work, work, work, in the useful and necessary fields of labor. They have no aspirations for public offices, or political or civil power of any kind.

4th. They have a warm and enduring attachment for home, family and friends.

5th. They have strong, religious feelings, and clear convictions of religious truth and duty, even where the fruits are small.

6th. They uniformly accept the Bible as the word of God. There is not an infidel, or a new light among them.

7th. There is among them a remarkable freedom from profanity ; rarely indeed is ever heard a single profane word from one of them.

8th. They are strictly temperate from principle and habit.

9th. There is, and has been for generations past, almost a uniform exemption from lawsuits and neighborhood quarrels and disputes.

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10th. None were ever known to be inmates of a prison, jail, house of correction, penitentiary, almshouse or poor-house, or to have been a legal culprit or criminal.

11th. They have a conscientious regard for the rights of the Sabbath, and the duties of the sanctuary. They all have ardent feelings, but almost exercised aright.

They love to please and make happy. Dishonesty and oppression they cannot brook. Liberty they must have, if in Christ, the more glorious.

These marked qualities are universal with them. These brief sketches, touching the character and history of our honored and exalted ancestry, have been gathered from various authentic sources, by EZRA WHITE, of New-York, for his children, and are hereby dedicated to them and their relatives.

